



UNITED STATES MINT NEWS & VIEWS

HENRIETTA HOLSMAN FORE, DIRECTOR
APRIL 2005

"LAND OF 10,000 LAKES" ADDED TO 50 STATE QUARTERS® COLLECTIONS



The United States Mint's popular 50 State Quarters® Program continues its seventh year on April 12th with the release of the Minnesota commemorative quarter dollar coin. It is the 32nd quarter in the United States Mint's series that honors all 50 States in the order in which they were admitted into the Union.

United States Mint Director Henrietta Holzman Fore will join Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty for a launch ceremony at the State Capitol in Saint Paul.

The coin's reverse design features a tree-lined lake with two people fishing, a loon on the water, and a textured outline of the State surrounding its nickname, "Land of 10,000 Lakes," and "1858," the year in which Minnesota was admitted into the Union.

Following the ceremony, there will be a coin exchange that is expected to place more than \$50,000 worth of new Minnesota quarters into circulation. More than 6,000 school children are expected to attend the launch ceremony.

AMERICAN BISON NICKEL DEBUTS



Amid the drama of American Indian drumming, singing and dancing, and in the presence of the revered American Bison, Director Fore presented the new 2005 American Bison 5-cent coin (nickel) to the American people in a Capitol Hill ceremony.

"The 2005 American Bison nickel will look significantly different from any nickels you have seen," she told the crowd. "It marks the first time that the image of President Jefferson has ever changed on the nickel, and we have the word 'Liberty' in his handwriting." Looking at Cody, the live Buffalo, she added, "There is a beautiful, strong, classic American bison on the reverse."

Honored speakers included Senator Michael B. Enzi (R-WY); U.S. Treasurer Anna Escobedo Cabral; Mr. Emil Her Many Horses of the Oglala Lakota, Associate Curator of the National Museum of the American Indian; Daniel P. Jordan, President of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation; and Dana Gioia, Chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts. Cody, a 2,000-pound American Bison, stood nearby, bringing to life the new reverse image on the 2005 nickel.

UNITED STATES MINT UNWRAPS NEW SPRING CATALOG

The United States Mint will soon be mailing an eight-page Spring Catalog to customers, featuring many of the 2005-dated coins, medals and products that have been brought to market earlier than in previous years.

All of the American Eagle Proof Coins will be available for purchase, as well as the Chief Justice John Marshall Silver Dollar and bronze duplicates of the Jackie Robinson Congressional Gold Medal (see related stories). A second catalog, once again planned for the fall, will be mailed to customers in time for holiday gift giving and will feature all of the available products for 2005, including the American Bison nickel, the Ocean in View nickel and all five of the 2005-dated releases for the 50 State Quarters® Program.



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MARSHALL COMMEMORATIVE TO BE RELEASED IN MAY 2005

The United States Mint is preparing to release the first of two historically significant commemorative coins in 2005.

The Chief

Justice John Marshall Silver Dollar honors the Nation's longest serving Chief Justice on the 250th Anniversary of his birth in 1755. Marshall's contributions to the High Court



were both numerous and lasting. In *Marbury v. Madison*, he established the principle of judicial review, declaring the Court's authority

as the final word regarding matters of constitutionality.

The Chief Justice John Marshall Silver Dollar will be a part of two special sets, in addition to the proof and uncirculated single-coin options.

A NEW "BILL" ON CAPITOL HILL



As part of the celebration at Washington's Union Station for the release of the new American Bison Nickel, the United States Mint took the wraps off its latest "Bill."

Joining Peter the Mint Eagle, Bill the Mint Buffalo has made the leap from

the animated pages of the United States Mint's Hip Pocket Change™ Web site into a real, walking mascot.

As the 50 State Quarters® Program moves westward across the Nation, Bill will be a featured guest at many of the remaining state quarter launches, showcasing the natural beauty of the land and highlighting the importance of the bison to the long, proud heritage of the American West.

JACKIE ROBINSON AWARDED CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

In a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, President George W. Bush posthumously presented the Jackie Robinson Congressional Gold Medal to Robinson's wife Rachel.



As stated in the authorizing legislation, "Although the achievements of Jackie Robinson began with athletics, they widened to have a profound influence on civil and

human rights in America. [T]he legacy and personal achievements of Jackie Robinson, as an athlete, a business leader, and a citizen, have

had a lasting and positive influence on the advancement of civil rights in the United States."

Fifty-eight years ago, Robinson broke the color barrier in major league baseball. In 1962 he was inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame, and in 1997, he became the first African-American to be honored on a United States commemorative gold coin.



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